(xix) Government is promoting appropriate applications of electronics to improve productivity, quality, safety and quality of services.

(xx) Various projects have been initiated by the Technology Development Council, National Radar Council, National Micro-electronics Council and Electronic Materials Development Council with a view to promote innovation, product design and development and technology development which are all basic for the growth of a healthy electronics industry;

(xxi) Various research centres and laboratories such as the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research, National Centre for Software Technology, Centre for Development of Telematics, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing Technology, Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology for Development of material and several Electronics Research and Development Centres have been set up to carry out R&D in well identified areas which is also a measure for developing self reliant industrial base; and

(xxii) For developing awareness of quality, a network of standardisation, testing and quality control laboratories have been set up. Some of these laboratories are authorised to test and certify for international and national quality standards. This must help in the export of electronic products.

[Translation]

Transfer of Various Schemes to States

3209. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has any proposal to hand over the plans/projects of regional importance to the State Governments concerned ;

(b) if so, whether a list of such plans/projects have been prepared ; and

(c) the names of the plans/projects proposed to be transferred to the Government of Rajasthan under the said proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) :

(a) No, Sir. (b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Loan disbursed under IRDP in Tamil Nadu

3210. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the amount of loan disbursed under the IRDP in Tamil Nadu during 1989, 1990 and 1991, yearwise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL) : The amount of loan disbursed under IRDP in the State of Tamil Nadu is as follows :

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1988-89	8487.48
1989-90	8148.66
1990-91 (Provisional)	5990.88

[Translation]

Diversion on PDS Wheat into Open Market

3211. SHRI SHIV SHARAN VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ration wheat is being sold in open market and the sugar is being adulterated ;

(b) the number of persons arrested in this connection during the last six months and the action taken against them ; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) to (c) Administration of PDS which includes monitoring of availability of PDS items, inspection of Fair Price Shops and prevention of diversion of PDS items into the open market etc. is done by the State Governments and U.T. Administrations. The Central Government has, however, advised them to strictly enforce the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and other similar legislations, to check diversion, black marketing and other malpractices. Reports received from the State Governments and U.T. Administrations so far (upto July, 1991) indicate that since January, 1991, 3152 persons were arrested for violation of various provisions of the Essential commodities Act and goods worth about Rs. 14.5 crores have been confiscated.

[English]

Hazards of Airwaves from High Voltage Power Lines

3212. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the hazards of the airwaves from high-voltage power lines, computer terminals and other technologies including microwaves causing carcinogenesis ;

(b) whether the Government are aware that USEPA is considering declaring these so called low frequency fields as probable human carcinogenesis ; and

(c) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) High tension power cables, computer terminals and some technical equipments are known to radiate microwaves and radio frequencies. However, their intensities at the user's location are relatively small and so far no evidence has come forward to establish a casual relationship with cancer. The international standards for manufacture and installation of these equipments also take into account safety aspects.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.